

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 31, 2004, claims 1, 3, and 4 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Ishikawa et al. (U.S. Patent 5,818,970); and claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa et al. The following rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1-4 are amended. No new matter is presented.

Ishikawa et al. disclose "...an image encoding apparatus for encoding image information including both a multi-value image and a line image, comprising extraction means...calculation means...delay means...and encoding means..." (Col. 2, lines 39-52). Further, Ishikawa et al. disclose an input terminal for inputting a multi-value image (Figure 1, 101).

In contrast to Ishikawa, the present invention inputs "control information externally-produced" (as recited in claims 1, 3, and 4) or "area information externally-produced" (as recited in claim 2) and integrates moving image data and control (or area) information.

Ishikawa does not discuss or suggest same.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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